(b) to (d) At present, the demand of LPG customers enrolled with the PSU Oil Companies in the State of Uttar Pradesh, is being met, by and large, in full.

Waiting List for LPG Connection in **Uttar Pradesh**

4215. PROF M. M. AGARWAL : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons on the waiting list for LPG connection in Uttar Pradesh, as on 31st March, 2000, district-wise;

(b) the time by when the above list is likely to be cleared; and

(c) the number of LPG connections proposed to be released to thepeople of Uttar Pradesh during the year 2000-2001, district-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY) : (a) The waiting list registered with LPG distributors of the PSU Oil Companies as on 31st March, 2000 in the state of Uttar Pradesh, is about 8.53 lakhs

(b) and (c) New LPG connections are released in a phased manner throughout the country depending on the LPG availability, waiting list, slack available with the distributors and their viability. However, the Government has a plan to release around 1 crore LPG connections during the year 2000 to clear all waiting list registered with the distributors of PSU Oil Companies as on 1-12-1999.

Quota of Kerosene allocated to Private Sector Companies

4216. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have been allocating kerosene to some of the private sector companies as an industrial fuel,

(b) if so, the details of private sector companies to which kerosene has been allotted during the last three years and the quantum thereof; and

(c) to what extent the private sector companies have properly utilised the quota of kerosene allotted to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) to (c) Kerosene is an allocated product and annual allocation is made by Central Government to States/

Union Territories for distribution through Public Distribution System (PDS). The distribution through PDS is monitored by the State Government. In addition, the Central Government makes allocation outside PDS and under the special categories meant for Railways, Defence, DGS and D, etc., who are supplied directly by the Oil Companies. The Central Government does not allocate Kerosene directly to private sector companies.

Provision of Waiting List Slips to Consumers of North-East

4217. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no necessity to wait for gas connection in North-Eastern Region from the agents for domestic purpose;

(b) if so, why it is mere in the gas coupons given to the MPs of North-East the provision of getting waiting list slip with number and filling up that provision, which the agents are not providing; and

(c) if not, whether Government would instruct the agents to provide the waiting list slips to the customers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY) : (a) to (c) At present, PSU Oil Companies are releasing LPG connections on demand in the North-Eastern Region after completing the registration of the customers. As per the existing guidelines, an LPG connection against the priority coupon issued by the Hon'ble M.P., is released after making the registration with the concerned LPG distributor.

Complaint against LPG dealers in Maharashtra

4218. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any complaint against the dealers of L.P.G. in Maharashtra;

(b) the details and nature of the complaints; and

(c) what action Government have taken in the matter, case-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY) : (a) to (c) Public Sector